

9 FAM PART IV Appendix C, BURMA (MYANMAR)

(TL:VISA-299; 07-30-2001)

RECIPROCITY

(TL:VISA-299; 07-30-2001)

Visa	Fee	No. Applications	Validity
A-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
A-2	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
A-3 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
B-1	\$32.00 [A]	ONE [A]	3 MONTHS [A]
B-2	\$32.00	ONE	6 MONTHS
C-1	\$16.00	ONE	3 MONTHS
C-1/D	N/A	N/A	N/A
C-2	NONE	ONE	12 MONTHS
C-3	NONE	ONE	12 MONTHS
D	NONE	MULTIPLE	24 MONTHS
E-1 [2]	NO TREATY	N/A	N/A
E-2 [2]	NO TREATY	N/A	N/A
F-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
F-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
G-5 [1]	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
H-1B	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-1C	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-2A	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-2B	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-3	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
H-4	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
I	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
J-1 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
J-2 [4]	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
K-1	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-2	NONE	ONE	6 MONTHS
K-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
K-4	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
L-1	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
L-2	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
M-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
M-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
N-8	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
N-9	NONE	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
NATO 1-7	N/A	N/A	N/A
O-1	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
O-2	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]

O-3	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-1	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-2	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-3	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
P-4	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
Q-1 [6]	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS [3]
R-1	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
R-2	\$32.00	MULTIPLE	12 MONTHS
S-5 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-6 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
S-7 [7]	NONE	ONE	1 MONTH
TD [5]	N/A	N/A	N/A
V-1	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS
V-2	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]
V-3	NONE	MULTIPLE	120 MONTHS [8]

[A] Tiered Fee Schedule, \$162.00, MULTIPLE, 12 MONTHS

SPECIAL CLEARANCE AND ISSUANCE PROCEDURES

(TL:VISA-286; 05-21-2001)

Presidential Proclamation 6925 of October 3, 1996.

Nonofficial Visas

(TL:VISA-287; 05-29-2001)

Individuals in the following categories appear to be subject to 212(f) procedures by virtue of their positions and would require automatic referral to the Department through a "VISAS DONKEY" Security Advisory Opinion before a visa could be issued. They include:

(1) Members of the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) (Formerly the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) and their immediate families;

(2) Government ministers and other senior Burmese government officials and their immediate families;

(3) Senior officials of the Union Solidarity Development Association (USDA) and their immediate families; and

(4) Military above the rank of Colonel and their immediate families; and Civil servants above the rank of Director-General and their immediate families.

(5) Civil servants above the rank of Director-General and their immediate families.

When a VISAS DONKEY Security Advisory Opinion has been requested, the Department's response is required prior to visa issuance.

Official Visas

“VISAS BEAR” Security Advisory Opinion Requests

(TL:VISA-260; 04-18-2001)

A “VISAS BEAR” telegram must be submitted for A, C-3, and G (except G-4) applications. No VISAS BEAR is required for applicants assigned to a Burmese mission in the United States, or for working level support staff and visitors who support the work of Burmese missions in the U.S., including missions to international organizations. When a VISAS BEAR Security Advisory Opinion has been requested, the Department's response is required prior to visa issuance.

DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

NOTE: During the years 1942 - 1945, Burma was devastated by nearly continuous fighting. Almost every part of the country suffered heavy damage, often repeatedly. As a result, almost no civil records predate 1945, although in rare instances families may have preserved their own copies of birth certificates and family registers.

Police Record

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

Available. (See note.) Police certificates can be obtained from the Township police station having jurisdiction over an applicant's most recent place of residence in Burma. For persons residing overseas, the most practical way to obtain the certificate is through close relatives still in Burma.

Prison Record

(TL:VISA-260; 04-18-2001)

Available. (See note.) Prison certificates are issued by the Superintendent of the prison where the sentence was served. To obtain a prison record for applicants outside Burma, the U.S. Embassy in Rangoon must send a diplomatic note to the Foreign Ministry giving the person's full name, date and place of birth, place of confinement and details of the sentence. This process can take months.

Military Record

(TL:VISA-260; 04-18-2001)

Available. Officers with no derogatory information in their military records can obtain "Office Order Part 2" from the Defense Services Records Office, Bauktaw, Yankin Township, Yangon. Enlisted men having a clean record can obtain service books from the same office. (If a veteran cannot obtain a record from that office, it may mean that his record contains adverse information. In that case, the U.S. Embassy in Rangoon can make inquiries.)

NOTE: Burma does not have conscription, and the Armed Forces do not issue a statement that a person has not had military service.

Birth Certificate

(TL:VISA-260; 04-18-2001)

Available. (See note.) After World War II and the insurrections from 1947-1950, birth registration gradually became more regular and common, especially in the cities. From the mid-1950's until the early 1970's compliance with birth registration regulations increased until it is now standard in all but the most remote areas. The variety of birth certificate forms used during the colonial era and afterward can be confusing. Embassy Rangoon will investigate suspect documents sent from other posts.

Applicants born in Rangoon Division may request birth certificates from:

Office of the Divisional Health Director
Yangon Health Division
No.520, West Race Course Road
Yangon, Myanmar

The applicant seeking the certificate must provide a copy of his and/or her identity card and family registration, his and/or her name and aliases, date and place of birth, parents' names, and parents' address at the time of applicant's birth.

There is a fee for the birth entry copy that must be paid in Kyat and may not be legally imported into or exported from Burma. Overseas applicants must have relatives or friends apply for them.

Those born outside Rangoon Division must apply to the Township Medical Officer of the township of their birth, sending the fee and the personal data listed above. If the birth was not recorded or the record was destroyed, the authorities will issue a letter to that effect.

If no birth certificate is available, secondary documents may help establish the fact of birth and the family relationship. The Citizen Verification Card issued to citizens and resident foreigners lists a person's name, aliases, date and place of birth. Some also include father's name. Township authorities and heads of households keep household registers which show names, birth years and identity card numbers of all persons living in a particular house, and their relationship to the head of the household. Naturalized and associate citizens cards list the new citizen's spouse and all children born as of the identity card issue date. School diplomas show the name of the graduate's father and marriage certificates list parents' names. Several of these documents taken together can build a credible case for a family relationship. (As a last resort, affidavits from family or friends may be acceptable, but these may be of doubtful reliability.)

Marriage Record

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

Available only marriages between two Christians, or a Christian and a non-Christian. After a Christian wedding, the officiating ministers prepares a marriage certificate. Few such church records survived World War II. For Christian weddings that took place after 1945, the record should be available from the church where the wedding was celebrated. Fee: Varies with each church.

Marriages between persons of other faiths are not officially registered. Under Buddhist law, a marital relationship is established through cohabitation and common repute, not by a ceremony or civil registration. However, Buddhist marriage partners often execute a marriage affidavit before a notary public or a local judicial office. This practice is becoming more common.

Muslim marriages are recorded in a deed of marriage signed by the parties and witnessed by friends and relatives. These marriage deeds are not registered with civil authorities.

Divorce Records

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

Available only for contested divorces of Buddhists and divorces of Christians. Court records are made for all Christian divorces because a Christian divorce is invalid without court action. A Muslim divorce is effected by means of a verbal formula recited by the husband. No written record need be made, but the parties may make an affidavit of divorce.

In a Buddhist marriage, if both parties want a divorce, they may end the marriage without judicial involvement and without making a written record. The necessary elements of a Buddhist divorce are cessation of cohabitation and community awareness that the marriage has ended. Affidavits are often signed in Buddhist mutual consent divorces, but are not legally necessary. Only if a Buddhist divorce is contested will a court record exist.

Courts do not issue divorce decrees, but make written records of decisions. To obtain a certified copy of a divorce record, one must apply to the Clerk of the court concerned. Court records are supposed to be destroyed after three years but are usually available for a much longer time. Fee: Varies with the length of the record.

Adoption Certificate

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

Available. The only Burmese adoptions recognized for U.S. Immigration are Kittima adoptions; all parties to a Kittima adoption must be Buddhist at the time of the adoption. All Kittima adoptions taking place since April 1, 1941 must be registered with government to be valid. (**NOTE:** Legal custody of a child starts from the date of the Kittima decree.) Copies of adoption deeds registered in Rangoon are available from the Office of the Registration of Deeds. Adoption deeds registered elsewhere are available from the Township Registration Office concerned. Fee: Varies on the length of the document. The Embassy will verify adoption deeds upon request.

Death Certificate

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

Available. Sources and fees parallel the information given above for birth certificates.

Passports: Information on Travel Documents

(TL:VISA-260; 04-18-2001)

Diplomatic Passport: Blue cover; It is issued under essentially the same conditions as the U.S. diplomatic passport. It can be valid indefinitely, usually valid 10 years, and is issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA).

Official Passport: Dark Green cover; It is analogous to the U.S. official passport, usually valid 10 years and issued by MOFA.

Ordinary Passport: Red cover. There are three types - visitors, work, and seaman's passports. The only difference is validity period. Visitor's passports are valid one year, work passports three years, and seaman's passports five years. All are issued by Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs.

Certificates of Identity: Long, four-page, light-blue sheet; It is issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in Rangoon titled "Certificate of Identity" in English and Burmese. A photo and description appear to the left of the sheet.

Under remarks in the bottom left corner the annotation must read, "This Certificate of Identity is issued in lieu of a passport as the bearer is under the age of 15 years. At the time of attaining manor age, the bearer has the right to take the passport at the nearest Myanmar Embassy." A certificate of identity annotated with any other language is not considered a valid travel document.

A similar document, entitled "Leaving Burma For Good" printed on cream paper, also exists. This document is issued to persons leaving Burma permanently. Once departed, the holder loses Burmese citizenship. This document does not meet the INA 101(a)(3) definition of "passport" as it does not clearly identify the holder as a Burmese citizen.

VISA ISSUING POST

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

Rangoon (E) All categories

GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERVICED

(TL:VISA-126; 10-05-95)

All of Burma.